

Message Text

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EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. MOSCOW: COLD RECEPTION FOR HEALTH EXCHANGE GROUP

ON FEBRUARY 25, DR. GOODWIN BREININ, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL FOR US-USSR HEALTH EXCHANGE, INFORMED EMBASSY MOSCOW THAT HIS DELEGATION HAD RUN INTO A STONE WALL ON EXCHANGE TALKS. ACCORDING TO BREININ, SOVIET DEPUTY HEALTH MINISTER VENEDIKTOV TOLD THE AMERICAN GROUP: "PRESIDENT CARTER MADE SOME STATEMENTS WHICH MAKE BILATERAL EXCHANGES DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE."

EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST INSTANCE OF THE SOVIETS

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LINKING A SPECIFIC BILATERAL PROGRAM TO THE CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATE. THE COUNCIL, WHICH HAS A TEN-YEAR HISTORY OF ACTIVITY WITH THE SOVIETS, SHOULD NORMALLY HAVE RECEIVED A WARM WELCOME. THE SHARP ATTACK BY VENEDIKTOV, A SMOOTH AND HIGHLY-EXPERIENCED OFFICIAL IN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL AFFAIRS, APPEARS DESIGNED TO REGISTER SOVIET UNHAPPINESS WITH RECENT BILATERAL DEVELOPMENTS AND TO SIGNAL THAT SCIEN-

TIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGES CAN BE AFFECTED BY THE US
HUMAN RIGHTS POSTURE. (CONFIDENTIAL) MOSCOW 2731, 2/28.)

2. KENYATTA VAGUELY OPTIMISTIC

AMBASSADOR MARSHALL MET PRIVATELY ON FEBRUARY 28 WITH KEN-
YAN PRESIDENT KENYATTA. KENYATTA VOICED HIS OPINIONS ON
AMIN, AND KENYA-TANZANIA RELATIONS.

--AMIN: KENYATTA FEELS WE SHOULD NOT GO TOO FAR TO
HUMOR AMIN, SINCE THIS ENCOURAGES HIM TO RAISE HIS
DEMANDS. AMIN BACKS DOWN WHEN CONFRONTED.

--KENYA-TANZANIA: KENYATTA BELIEVES THERE IS STILL
HOPE FOR THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP AND
THAT NYERERE'S PRESENT ACTIONS WERE FORCED BY INTERNAL
POLITICS. KENYATTA DOES NOT WISH TO RESPOND TO TANZA-
NIA'S ACTS IN ANY WAY WHICH WILL AGGRAVATE THE SITUA-
TION. (SECRET) NAIROBI 2606 (EXDIS), 3/1.)
VANCE

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